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SWORD and PEN

Official Newsletter of the International Combat Martial
Arts Federation (ICMAF) and the Academy of
Self-Defense

MAY 2017 EDITION

www.americancombato.com

www.seattlecombatives.com

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E d i t o r i a l

Our Philosophy Of Self-Defense

ONE of our three most esteemed teachers was Charles (“Charlie”) Nelson, formerly Sergeant Charles Nelson of the U.S. Marine Corps, and veteran of Guadalcanal during WWII. The other two teachers whom we most highly esteemed — we nevertheless *respected all* of those we had the pleasure and privilege of training under, and there were at least half a dozen others — were of course Col. Rex Applegate, and former Special Agent Maurice (“Maury”) Geier.

Charlie taught one of the most powerfully effective and practical Courses in

self-defense available anywhere, during the 1960's. His stated purpose was to teach his students how to “cripple a thug, maim a mugger, or just put a wise guy on his back”. Our love and respect for this war hero/close combat master nevertheless does not prevent us from having no real interest in *putting wise guys on their back* — now or way back then. We wanted — and got — however, an undiluted super-helping of what was **damn serious, no-nonsense, put ‘em down and out hand-to-hand combat training** as the major portion of what Charlie taught us. As a young teenager we endlessly pleaded with Charlie, “*Please show us what you taught the marines in World war two!*” We stayed with Charlie for nearly three years, and he more than complied with our request! Seeing how devoted we were to the subject, Charlie, a USMC certified “combat judo” instructor who had learned the Biddle System and who had been shown the O’Neill System and who had boxed on the Corps’ lightweight squad, essentially (perhaps to shut us up!) kept giving us what likely was his entire fund of close combat and self-defense know-how. The only part — which, years later from the 70’s on he came to *emphasize* for some odd reason (i.e. the holds and the locks of control and arrest methodology) — that we didn’t have much enthusiasm for was that which dealt with “putting a wise guy on his back”. We had had quite enough of this in *ju-jutsu*, and we were (as we are today) **only concerned with serious, emergency self-defense and close combat in war.**

Violence has never been a light or “recreational” subject to us. We have always despised unjustifiable violence. We never really like combat *sports*, either. Not that there is anything per se wrong with them, but the use of force in a sport just never appealed to us. **Our entire, 100% focus since we first became interested in self-defense has been in just that: *self-defense*. Unarmed combat, close combat, hand-to-hand combat, personal combat, and so forth. All combat. All real. No games. No sport. No “competition” to see who wins, etc. Please note: We are *not* trying to suggest that combat sports are undesirable. They’re fine. We just don’t personally care for them.**

The uniqueness of the all-combat system that we founded in 1975 (i.e. *American Combato [Jen•Do•Tao]*) derives from numerous factors;

however, one of the most important is that ***it has absolutely nothing to do with anything but serious individual combat — offensive AND defensive, armed AND unarmed.***

This is especially important to note *today*, in 2017. The reason is because “martial arts” today, unlike centuries ago when they were originated, are nearly all now “played as sports”. Regrettably, countless self-defense and close combat seeking people have been misled into believing that open competition has “improved” the quality of martial arts training *for self-defense*. **It has not.** And while we’re uninterested in arguing with any who disagree, we do want to reach those with reasoning minds who are looking for training in serious personal defense, and who want the **truth**.

Our approach can never have the appeal of sport, or of sport *masquerading* as self-defense, possibly for commercial purposes. Nevertheless **therein lies the pristine value of what we offer, as well as a statement of what it is: a 100% no-nonsense, modern, realistic, utterly reliable, System of close combat and personal protection suitable for both genders and all ages.**

We can understand the appeal of schools that claim to be teaching “Self-defense, an enjoyable sport, and a classical-traditional art which builds fitness”. Sounds good. But a choice needs to be made here: ***Just what, specifically, are you looking for?*** You can enjoy a lifetime of classical/traditional training. After five to eight years just about any classical martial art will have *some* carryover value for self-defense. You can get involved with competition. It’s a young man’s game, but that may be just what you want. If you are in top shape and actively competing on a regular basis, then you will be able, most likely, to adopt your contest-training and experience to a self-defense emergency — at least to a degree. But if ***all*** you are interested in is being able to handle dangerous violence and defend yourself and your family, then you need **pure combat training**. Mentally, physically, tactically, technically, **you need destructive, no-nonsense close combat methods, And you do not want them diluted or moderated in any way. If ever you actually need these methods you will need them**

VERY BADLY, indeed!

This is what we're about. No-nonsense close combat and personal protection ability. For a lifetime. For men and for women. No "retirement from the game". Mental and physical and tactical and technical readiness to confront and deal with . . . whatever and whoever happens; wherever and whenever it may be!

In short, if these are the things that concern you, then you want what we're offering.

Bradley J. Steiner

Finish It *Fast!*

A real attack is similar to an attempted *assassination*. It hits without warning at an unanticipated time and place, and it aims at maiming or killing you. Every effort is made to surprise and to overwhelm you. It is impossible to know for sure and ahead of time much about the attacker's capabilities, his armament or lack thereof, or even how many are attacking you. **The situation bears not the slightest similarity to a sporting contest of any kind.** The attacker certainly hopes to conclude whatever he intends to do in as little time as possible, and *get away with that which he has done*, as well as get away from the scene of his onslaught. There (obviously!) will be no accommodations in place to insure your safety — i.e. mats, cleared area, no debris or obstacles present, no endangering of your loved ones during the attack, a physician present, well lit area, the opportunity to "start off equally"; i.e. face to face in a readied "fighting stance", your having had the time to limber and warmup, and to wear suitably comfortable and suitable attire for a physical battle.

A real attack can come at any time, in any place, and regardless of your readiness to do battle, or your ability to engage the enemy in what is **suitably appropriate terrain to accommodate *how you “like” to fight.***

Obvious and incontrovertibly **TRUE** as that which we have just pointed out is, there will be many who will scoff and insist until sundown that you can prepare for all-out hand-to-hand violence that is initiated by dangerous, determined felons by engaging in sport-oriented techniques and tactics.

You can't.

Please read through the following list:

Head butting

Eye gouging or jabbing

Biting

Spitting in the face

Hair pulling

Fish hooking

Attacking the testicles or groin area

Ramming a finger (or fingers) into a nostril or into the nostrils

Breaking a finger or fingers

Smashing downward elbows blows into the attacker's kidneys or spine

Smashing hammerfist blows, or handaxe chops into the cervical vertebrae at the back of the neck, or lower down into the spine or tailbone

Stomping into a downed man's kidney, spine, skull, knee, sternum, face, or throat

Pincher type attacks to the thyroid cartilage and ripping out with one's fingers

Chopping, half-fist striking, or punching/jabbing the throat

Seizing and ripping the ears off the head, clawing and twisting and tearing at the flesh

Breaking the clavicle or seizing it

Kicking, stomping, or knee-dropping a downed adversary's head

Stomp-kicking into the knee, and breaking it

Seizing a handrail or item of heavy furniture to support a blow and brace oneself

Growling and using curses and profanities suddenly, after feigning timidity, *while attacking fiercely*

Seeking, cultivating, focusing upon, and being ready to use without a tremor of hesitation *ANY* foul, unsporting, vicious, unfair action imaginable — to include using any unarmed technique, weapon or improvised weapon *against an apparently unarmed enemy*

Willfully, enthusiastically, and with every ounce of speed, strength, and commitment possible, endeavoring to knock out, maim, or kill

Attacking when your enemy is completely non-combative (i.e. when being held hostage, for example)

Smashing an opponent to the deck on his head or spine, or on the point

of a shoulder, throwing him into traffic, down a flight of stairs, or out a window or off a roof

Those 24 items would constitute **banned actions** in MMA/UFC contests. We point this out because MMA/UFC are certainly the most aggressive and potentially harmful **sporting forms** of “combat”. Yet, ***every single one of those actions is a “first-line choice” for self-defense and close combat.***

These brutal actions enable you to attack and to finish the damn situation quickly.

While it is possible that your initial attack will not completely neutralize your foe, you can bet that they will **surprise** your enemy when you deliver them without warning, with a piercing, growling shout, and with all of your available strength, ***and you followup relentlessly and savagely, paying no attention to whether your first action succeeded completely or not.*** **You stop when you realize that your enemy is no longer a threat.**

As we constantly emphasize, you **ATTACK**, you do not “get into a fight”, or a contest. And you strive to destroy the opposition within **10** to not more than **30** seconds. ***FINISH IT FAST!***

The Death Penalty

THE idea that human life is precious has always been —— and should always remain —— at the foundation of civilized human thinking. It is a bit frightening to think than anyone could live on this planet today and *not* regard that concept as axiomatic.

Unfortunately, intellectual confusion has been influencing the thinking of many, and in consequence they mistakenly take the sanctity of human life to mean that *putting murderers to death* somehow “violates” as opposed to **underscores** Western civilization’s holding human life as an all but sacred value.

If you hold human life to be the greatest value, then you cannot hold someone who *immorally and illegally takes human life as being entitled to retain his own* That is not justice. That is is not reasonable.

Under ideal conditions a would-be murderer will suffer his own death at the hands of his intended victim, who, acting in self-defense, will kill him. That happens very, very rarely; but whenever it does it is cause for celebration. Otherwise, only occasionally, does a murderous monster suffer death as lawful punishment *after* he has been apprehended for murdering one or more innocent people. Usually he “suffers”(?) a prison sentence. **Sometimes** the prison sentence is for “life” ——— but he still *might* get parole (unless of course he must “suffer” life *without the possibility of parole*).

In those rarest of occasions the farce entails the murderer being sentenced to two, three, or even more(!) “life sentences”. Now the only way to describe *that* nonsense is to call it what it is: **BULLSHIT**.

If, may God Almighty forbid, anyone dear to us was ever murdered, we would be offended and devastated in the extreme, if the murderer suffered *anything* but **death** ——— and within a week after being convicted. Fifty life sentences would make us insane with rage toward the legal system; and if the bastard did years on death row before finally being gotten rid of, we also would be outraged. *In fact we would want desperately to throw the switch or do whatever was done to CAUSE the creature’s death, ourselves.*

No one can and no one ever has provided **justification** for *not* executing a convicted murderer. And in this context it is critical to distinguish between murder and homicide. **Murder is unjustifiable homicide**. There is indeed *justifiable* homicide (or killing), such as *killing in self-defense*. A person who kills in self-defense has **not** committed a *murder*; he has killed someone in self-defense ——— an enormous difference. Murder, of course, being an act of evil that is condemned by the law. Justifiable homicide being an understandable and excusable act which is what “self-defense” always is. No victim bears responsibility for what his attacker does; and no attacker can

place responsibility for what he does upon his victim. When a victim is pressed and compelled to defend himself or a loved one, it is the **ATTACKER** — i.e. the initiator of violence — who is responsible for whatever others need to do in order to protect themselves from being harmed by him. Sometimes the taking of a violent offender's life is necessary in order to stop him.

The question of a “death penalty” arises when, after the fact of the killing (i.e. the **murder**) the offender is caught, tried, and found guilty. **Is it right to execute this offender?** We say “Absolutely! In fact, for real justice to be done, we insist that a death sentence *must* be carried out. The victim is gone and can never be brought back. He cannot do *anything* on his own behalf, and neither can his loved ones; and if the government and law courts which he supported during his lifetime, and under whose edicts he lived does *not* hunt down, arrest, put on trial, and eliminate his murderer once he is found guilty, then there has been no justice. There remains **revenge**, but people claim to want the **LAW** to determine what must and must not be done in criminal cases. For the parent, spouse, close friend, or who have you of a murder victim to go get the murderer and kill him is a frowned upon concept by most people. *So the “system” would better take care of business.*

Someone who knowingly and with no justification takes violent, lethal action against another human being that results in that human being's death **SHOULD** forfeit his own life. No “prison time” can right this wrong or hope to provide some sense of real justice and closure to the tortured survivors of an innocent person's murder.

It is very comfortable and easy for a group of arrogant “intellectuals” to gather and sneer about how “unjust” we are to have a death sentence. Yet these sniveling pretenders would howl the loudest if anyone *they* loved was murdered. To hell with such self-righteous frauds.

Decent human beings should support the death penalty vigorously. It is not by any stretch of the imagination “*cruel and unusual punishment*”. What constitutes **cruel and unusual punishment** is the state of grief and torment in which murderers leave entire families when they get away with their own lives

after killing sons, daughters, fathers, mothers, friends, etc.

No, the death penalty will **not** bring back the unfortunate victim of the murderer's heinous act. But it will make a **permanent statement and gesture of justice on that victim's behalf, and on behalf of every human being who loved and cared for that victim,** That statement and gesture says that *"No one will get away with taking an innocent life, and our society will put a permanent end to those who do murder."*

We truly think that every decent citizen in every state in the union, and every city, town, hamlet, and village in every state, would benefit from this.

DVD Course NOW AVAILABLE!



***(You Can Learn Self-Defense and
Close Combat At Home!)***

Here are a few comments about us and what and how we teach, from a handful of the many *genuine* authorities in the field of close combat and self-defense who are familiar with us and with our work:

“Brad Steiner is one of the three finest instructors of close combat and self-defense that I know of, in the world”

— James R. Jarrett,

Former U.S. Army Special Forces and LAPD SWAT/Protégé of the late, internationally famous defensive tactics and baton master, Robert Koga. Mr. Jarrett holds a 5th degree Black Belt and is a renown firearms, self-defense, and counterterrorist instructor. He is a former university professor and an author.

“ [Brad Steiner] is simply the finest teacher of any subject that I have ever had . . . I feel deeply blessed to be able to know and to study under him”

— Greg Anderson,

Third degree black belt, author of *Weapons At Hand*, accomplished professional athlete (wrestled at the national level and played college football), world-acknowledged authority on physical training, author, and Director of Ideal Exercise, one of the finest fitness facilities in the Western states.

“Brad Steiner knows real self-defense and what works in hand-to-hand combat like no one on earth! His Method is incredible!”

— Detective Ralph Friedman (NYPD Retired),

Ralph was, at the time of his retirement, the most decorated police officer in the history of the NYPD. He has received, among other awards, the coveted ‘Combat Cross’. Ralph was featured, along with his brother — an NYPD Transit Police Officer — on the TV Show Top Cops.

“Your Method is excellent. You have expanded upon and improved considerably the method I learned from Fairbairn and Sykes during WWII and what the USMC taught to the Raider Battalions. And you’re a very good student *and* teacher”

**— Maurice (“Maury”) Geier,
Former U.S. Federal Agent and counterintelligence officer during WWII. Also a combat shooting instructor for FBI and other federal officers, as well as a hand-to-hand combat teacher who was so fierce he earned the nickname “Deathhouse Geier”.**

“Your American Combato is a very good System”

**— Charles (“Charlie”) Nelson,
WWII hand-to-hand combat judo instructor with whom we trained for nearly three years. It was from Nelson that we learned the O’Neill System, as well as what A.J. Drexel Biddle taught (Charlie was one of Biddle’s students).**

“You are indeed a ‘Professor’ of combat arts! I quote you all of the time”

**— Grandmaster Jim Harrison,
The premier pioneer in America of the Asian fighting arts of ju-jutsu and karate. The late Bruce Lee once said of Jim Harrison that he is the one person he would *not* like to fight. It would take a thick pamphlet to describe all of Jim Harrison’s accomplishments and contributions to the combat arts in America.**

**“From you I learned the valuable lesson of ‘attacking’ instead of ‘defending’ when you have to defend yourself”
— Grandmaster John McSweeney,**

The “Father of Irish Karate”, John was one of Ed Parker’s first Black Belts. John also studied boxing, judo, ju-jutsu, and kung fu. The quotation above is from a letter John sent to us after reading our Tactical Skills of Hand-to-Hand Combat. We maintained a correspondence and friendship until John’s passing.

“You certainly do make many excellent points about how mental conditioning for self-defense may be achieved. Although I had never anticipated RET (Rational Emotive Therapy) being utilized for martial arts training, you have done quite an impressive job. I appreciate your outstanding abilities with hypnosis, and I think that your innovative ideas deserve a widespread audience”

— Dr. Albert Ellis,

One of the most famous psychologists in the world. Of him Dr. Robert A. Harper once wrote that he believed Dr. Ellis’ contributions are as significant as those of Dr. Sigmund Freud. We owe a good deal of how we work with students to achieve all sorts of psychological breakthroughs to our intensive study of Dr. Ellis’ works.

“ [Y]our articles are read, studied, and saved whenever they are published. You have an understanding and command of the subject of fighting that very few people have”

— George Kalishevich,

Former USMC Sergeant and combat veteran of Southeast Asia. Kalishevich was a multiple Black Belt holder, a boxer, weight trainee, and hand-to-hand combat teacher

since the 1960's. He was also an experienced bouncer. He passed away several years ago.

“As a law enforcement officer working dangerous assignments in the most violent parts of the New York metropolitan area in the 1970's, I found that Mr. Steiner's advice was always on the money. The information contained in his articles in Combat Handguns, Handguns, American Handgunner, and Soldier of Fortune magazines was lifesaving. As a professional armed and unarmed combat trainer, I regularly referred to many of the concepts Mr. Steiner wrote about. He often went right to the source to discover how and why certain methodologies worked. Bradley Steiner is one of the few civilians actually certified by Col. Rex Applegate to teach close combat.

The late John McSweeney . . . dubbed the ‘Father of Karate in Ireland’ told me that he also was greatly influenced by Mr. Steiner's writings, especially the idea of paring down close combat techniques to a few essential strikes, trained to perfection. Mr. McSweeney told me that he had a pet name for Brad Steiner. He called him ‘The Monk,’ in reference to Mr. Steiner's vast knowledge of martial arts and mayhem. My own writing about martial realism was inspired by Brad Steiner's”.

— Grandmaster John Perkins,

The brilliant innovator of ‘Guided Chaos’, John Perkins' background in unarmed combat (and armed combat) is the result not only of training but of lots and lots of real world experience.

**The First and Only Complete Self-Defense
and Close Combat Course in American**

Combato (Jen·Do·Tao) on High Quality DVDs!

Eleven carefully prepared professional instructional DVDs describe and demonstrate the most practical, powerful, reliable, and authentic skills of no-nonsense realistic and war-proven unarmed and armed hand-to-hand combat methodology and personal defense developed since WWII! This Course, describing methods from that System developed in the early 1970's by Bradley J. Steiner, which crystalized into the American Combato (Jen·Do·Tao)[™] all-in modern close combat/self-defense martial art in 1975, will teach you how to defend yourself and those you love in any situation! Some of these methods have been copied, imitated, and pirated during the last 25 years, but a complete self-defense course derived directly from the original and authentic System — and the only authorized

presentation of American Combato — is now available for home study. All of the techniques, all of the theory, and all of the mental conditioning and related doctrine in these DVDs is presented by the System's originator, Prof. Bradley J. Steiner, himself. Like Fairbairn, Sykes, Applegate, O'Neill, Brown, Begala, and Biddle in the second world war — from whose lineage this modern Martial Art is a direct descendant — Prof. Steiner clearly, simply, and plainly instructs in real world, lifesaving combatives doctrine.

You can order any of the eleven DVDs individually, or you can purchase the entire Course, in which case you pay for only ten DVDs. You receive one FREE!

Each DVD contains the equivalent instruction normally given in four to eight private lessons. This Course is the equivalent of at least 50 private lessons with Prof. Steiner,

personally! And you can review this instruction again and again, and save the DVDs for your children to study when they are old enough.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!:—

The system of martial arts presented in these DVDs is not a "traditional" or "classical" martial art.

These DVDs, and the information, and techniques contained within should not be taught, shown, or divulged to anyone under 18 years of age.

Due to the serious nature and lethality of the techniques shown, no one under 18 should be instructed in the techniques.

Due to potential serious injury or death, minors under the age of 18 should not be allowed to purchase or view the techniques demonstrated on the DVD's and in the system.

Minors lack the proper judgment and emotional restraint and discipline and should not be entrusted with the techniques contained herein.

Please utilize the techniques only in those situations where you would utilize a lethal weapon, similar to using a firearm, an improvised or edged weapon.

Please keep DVDs in a safe place out of the reach of minors, similar to safekeeping of firearms.

Contents:—

DVD #1 FUNDAMENTALS

- How to stand, move, distance, and position yourself
- The combat color code
- Attack mindedness
- Evasive footwork
- How to shield
- “Fairbairn’s Four” —

The chinjab smash, the handaxe chop, the tiger’s claw, and the side

kick. All clearly explained and demonstrated so that anyone with no prior experience in any martial art can understand and develop the skills! These are the first four of *American Combato's* 16 Key Blows (originally regarded by W.E. Fairbairn as the “most essential” basic blows, comprising a complete mini-system of personal hand-to-hand combat, once mastered).

DVD#2 BASIC BLOWS

- Continuing from “Fairbairn’s Four”, this powerful presentation completes your lessons in the remaining 12 Key Blows — the most practical and effective blows — in unarmed close combat.

- The straight heelpalm
- The knee attack
- The front kick
- The elbow smash
- The fingertips *thrust*
- The fingertips *jab*
- The snap kick
- The backfist-forearm smash
- The hammerfist-forearm smash
- The basic straight punch
- The ear box
- The throat lock

DVD#3 ATTACK COMBINATIONS - FIRST SERIES

- Powerful and devastatingly effective combinations of attacking actions which are adaptable to an infinite number of situations and emergency circumstances. These attack combinations utilize the Key Blows, and include additional offensive unarmed combat actions and tactics, which enable you to infinitely combine, and improvise limitless sequences and applications of ferocious attacks of your own.

This DVD focuses on attack combinations leading with *HANDAXE CHOPS* and *THRUSTING ACTIONS*, the first two categories of “attack combinations” in *American Combato*.

In this and the next DVD you will learn more combinations of each type than you would ever possibly need.

DVD#4 ATTACK COMBINATIONS - SECOND SERIES

- Completing a well-balanced, comprehensive curriculum in vicious, unconventional, yet simple and readily applicable attacking sequences which enable the practitioner to overwhelm and disable any assailant. These combinations continue to expand your capability with the Key Blows and with other actions and tactics, and turn you into a dangerous, unpredictable, offensive combatant in close quarters combat. You'll be an expert at taking the battle into the enemy's camp and *attacking your attacker!*

This DVD trains you in *DISTRACTING LEAD ATTACKS, KICKING LEADS, and MISCELLANEOUS LEADS.*

DVD#5 COUNTERATTACKING THE UNARMED FRONTAL ASSAILANT

- No realistic close combat system is worthwhile unless the matter of *counterattacking* (i.e. reacting to attacks which you have been unable to preempt) is covered. In this DVD you will learn:

- How to immediately react with devastating and decisive force against any grabbing type attack from the front
- How to break holds that attackers might apply if they catch you off guard
- How very simply to counter punching or kicking attacks

DVD#6 COUNTERING THE UNARMED REAR ATTACK

- Attacks from behind are *deadly*. Learn first and foremost to guard against leaving access to your rear. However, if caught unaware, learn

- How to counter sudden grabbing attacks from behind
- How to counter holds that may be applied from behind

DVD#7 COUNTERING KNIFE AND CLUB ATTACKS

- The proper tactics and mental ploys applicable to these situations is emphasized. Technically, you will be taught

- How to deal with knife *threats*, from varying positions
- How to save your life if attack by an adversary who is

- determined to slash or to stab you with a knife
- How to counter overhand club attacks
- How to counter the backhand club or baseball bat swing

DVD#8 COUNTERING HANDGUN AND SHOULDER WEAPON THREATS

- Obviously these, like knife and club attacks, are *deadly* threats and only the simplest, most basic and reliable methods should be studied. No weapon “takeaways” or complicated nonsense here! These are commando type actions and will work under the most adverse conditions. Intended to save lives — not your wallet.
 - Frontal handgun threats
 - Side handgun threats
 - Rear handgun threats
 - Frontal shoulder weapon threats
 - Side shoulder weapon threats
 - Rear shoulder weapon threats

DVD#9 COUNTERING MULTIPLE ATTACKERS

- Key principles and tactics of countering more than a single aggressor
- The core *scenarios* and how to develop counterattacking capabilities against two or more attackers that *really work*.

DVD#10 HOW TO USE THE STICK FOR SELF-DEFENSE

- Basic stick techniques
- The *complete* Fairbairn stick method (beyond what is taught in *ALL-IN FIGHTING/GET TOUGH!*)
- The USMC’s Kengla Technique
- Some advanced stickwork combinations
- How to use the *yawara* hand stick (for modern applications)

DVD#11 KNIFEWORK

- Psychological factors
- The universal grip (for stiletto and Bowie type knives, as well as for kitchen, utility, and all other types of knives, and for improvised stabbing and cutting implements)

- Knife *offense*
- Defending yourself with a knife

The cost of each individual DVD is \$59.95 + \$6. shipping and handling (**\$20. postage and handling for foreign orders**)

If you purchase the complete 11-DVD Course you pay only for 10 DVDs, bringing the total cost to \$599.50. You get one DVD FREE. **Add \$20. for postage and handling (\$40. for foreign orders).** That's just under \$600. for \$7,500. worth of training!

All DVD purchases are of course nonrefundable.

Personal checks may take up to three to four weeks to clear, in some cases. For *immediate* shipment send cash, or a postal money order, bank check or bank money order, payable to Brad Steiner. Send your order to:

**Brad Steiner
P.O. Box 15929
Seattle, Washington 98115
U.S.A.**

You will want to study these DVDs again and again, as they are rich in content and packed with solid, reliable information and instruction!

Merciless Bronx killer pistol-whipped

victim after running out of bullets

ACTUAL TITLE OF A NEWS STORY THAT APPEARED ON
THURSDAY, 30 MARCH 2017, IN THE NY DAILY NEWS
ONLINE.

From the text of the story:

“The career criminal with 86 prior arrests accused of shooting a fellow drug dealer to death didn’t stop when his gun ran out of bullets, sources said. Jamel Burney, 32, [allegedly shot and killed Michael Vermong](#), 46, outside a building on Bainbridge Ave. near E. 205th St. Wednesday at about 2:30 a.m.

“After he was chased down and arrested, Burney claimed to cops that he felt Vermong had repeatedly disrespected him and that Burney pointed the gun at Vermong to scare him, but the gun just went off.

“In fact, sources said, he fired six shots from a chrome .38 Special, hitting Vermong once in the chest.”

Do Not Miss!

An enormous source of instructional articles, professional commentaries, book reviews, and the American Combato System’s structure, contents, and philosophy. NEW MATERIAL ADDED EV-

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Total of over 400 articles packed with instruction, training tips, suggestions, insights, and technical close-combat and self-defense advice!

After reading the latest entries, check the “archives” (bottom of each page) for lots and lots more FREE material devoted to quality skills, mental conditioning. Years of valuable writings! We’ve been a pioneer of what today is called “Reality Based Self-Defense” and the purveyance of the “WWII Close Combat Systems” since the late 1960’s — long before most of today’s “instructors” were born! Our writings reflect the knowledge, skills, and teaching experiences acquired over a period of 60 years, and of our training, learning, and doing!



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Master *Close-In* Tactics

THE kinds of situations that occur in real life close combat (self-defense or military hand-to-hand) do not approximate those that one encounters in freestyle sparring, any more than they approximate the sport grappling and wrestling integral to today's popular fad.

Real hand-to-hand is **very close**, and it makes the most effective use of **combat type blows** (not sparring punches and kicks), an occasional — very basic — throwing action, and an occasional neck break or strangulation. Real hand-to-hand also involves hand-held weapons, improvised and manufactured, and truly “dirty”, foul, underhanded methods. No sport or contest approaches the savagery and inhumanity of a **genuine hand-to-hand battle**.

The following is a helpful list for students of self-defense and close combat. Each item listed points to a **critical** subject for serious study and development, for self-defense. One cannot say that all of these are pleasant to consider; but they are certainly potential lifesavers and should be worked on constantly by those wishing to be ready for *real world* type encounters.

When these actions become second nature, automatic, done without conscious deliberation, and so forth, **then** the individual can begin to feel that he is really prepared to deal with street scum and other assorted violent filth.

1. Tiger's claw to face

Straight out of Fairbairn's WWII System. You form your hand as you would for a chinjab smash. Now aim the clawed hand directly at the enemy's face and thrust as fast and as powerfully as possible, driving the “clawlike” hand formation straight into the facial target. Your fingertips *hit* the enemy's eyes, and your palm collapses onto his nose and upper lip. *Grind* those fingers into his eyes. Followup with low kicks, knees to testicles, etc.

This blow also makes a great followup itself, after a kick to the shin.

2. Thumb gouging eyes

Drive one or both thumbs for a single or double gouge attack.

The *inside* corner of the eye is the preliminary spot where the thumb is driven. Then, the thumb is driven straight in and *gouges outward*, literally endeavoring to dig the eye out of the enemy's head. **Note:** If the thumb is driven straight back it can penetrate the thin bone behind the eye and drive into the brain.

When gouging both eyes up close you can knee the testicles, causing the head to drive forward — increasing the depth of the gouge. The initial gouge opens up the testicles for a knee attack.

3. Biting

Applicable to any part of the human anatomy that happens to be near the mouth. Bite like a wild animal, not like a person. Sink your teeth into the enemy's flesh. In some instances you might be able to bite off an ear, piece of the cheek, neck, or a nose. In other instances just bite down hard — and through — the most conveniently available target, and try to tear a piece out of the enemy's body. Biting the neck and face is probably the *ideal* way to employ biting; but again, just about any part of the human body is a viable target. (Can you think of anywhere you wouldn't mind being bitten?)

4. Head butting

This is a very useful technique of self-defense and offense. You can strike with the skull **forward**, **backward**, and to **either side**. Combined with a knee to testicles, this is a devastating attack.

When the enemy is in front of you use the head butt when his face is right in front of your face. **Look down suddenly at his belt and let your head bash into his face.** *Do not* “cock” the head back before butting or otherwise telegraph any intention to head butt.

5. Kneeing

Knee the testicles when the enemy is body-to-to-body. If you are pressed back into a wall this cocks the leg for a downward kick.

If free standing, knee twice or three times. If the first knee blow doubles the enemy forward, knee his face.

Follow a knee up with fingers to eyes, chinjab, elbow. ear box, biting, etc.

6. Scrape stomping

Using the inside or outside edge of your boot or shoe, throw your bodyweight into a slam against the enemy's knee or upper shinbone. Then drive the edge downward with all of your strength and end up crushing the instep.

7. Smacking, grabbing, and ripping off ears

Two-handed simply smack palms over enemy's ears, grab ears hard, and powerfully simulate using a bow and arrow.

One hand grab ear and hold securely. Chinjab smash with opposite hand.

If cupped hands are used a concussion may occur. Excellent technique.

Useful when opponent is bent forward as well as when he is standing.

8. Driving finger up nostril

Hardly necessary to go into detailed instruction. This will drive anyone's head back and expose throat.

9. Finger locking windpipe

Drive thumb and index, or thumb and middle, or both index and middle fingers and thumb behind the thyroid cartilage and ***close them hard***. Now smack forehead of enemy back with opposite hand, or heelpalm temple with opposite hand, and the breathing apparatus will be damaged severely, causing the enemy to choke. Upon locking windpipe you can just yank forward — hard — and you will conclude the encounter.

Note: Always apply high under jawbone, never where powerful muscles protect the neck.

10. Mouth hooking

From behind an enemy both index or middle fingers can reach around head and hook corners of the mouth, ripping outward.

Thumb can hook corner of mouth and rip. *Very effective* when applied in conjunction with the finger lock on windpipe.

The thumb hook and rip exposes the side of the enemy's neck — possibly for a bite.

11. Seizing testicles

Not usually easy to do, but sometimes possible.

Drive thumb side of hand in a sharp blow between enemy's legs. Now turn

palm upward and grab hold of testicles. Crush, twist, yank.

12. Half-fist to throat

Can be done with very little momentum and still be powerful. Once contact is made (assuming the half-fist did **not** strike hard) *press and grind* the half-fist into the throat. As a sharp, powerful *strike* whenever possible, this blow is **excellent**.

13. Elbow striking

The elbows are perfect close-in weapons. They need no conditioning. They deliver great power. They may be used in all directions, with practice. Whip, thrust, jab, smash to the enemy's face, head, neck, solar plexus, sternum, groin, kidney, spine.

14. Head wrenching and neck breaking

The old head-twist takedown or throw, taught in the O'Neill System and in *American Combato*, is one of the very few desirable and effective **combat** throws. There are numerous ways to seize and wrench/twist the neck suddenly. Dangerous and effective they are often applicable in self-defense emergencies.

15. The open hand "handaxe" chop

This blow can be snapped backward, sideways, forward, upward, downward, etc. without warning. "**Old reliable**". Hit anywhere on the face/throat or side of the neck/head area with a surprise chop and provided you followup without mercy, you can be almost 100% certain of victory. You can do this blow *our* way (i.e. using the balpeen hammer-like bone at the base of the edge and heel, or the old WWII way, using the meaty portion of the hand edge).

The **combat** student must master the above skills. The competitor/sportsman has no need of them. Correctly, actions of this kind are **banned** in all competitive sports. *They are strictly for the self-defense or battlefield emergency.*

These techniques must be resorted to **IMMEDIATELY** ON BEING SET

UPON BY A VIOLENT OFFENDER! No shilly-shallying, pondering, hesitation, delay, time to consider, reluctance to do serious injury, etc. or confusion of any kind about it!

A solid, proper all-combat system will emphasize developing individual blows, combinations, and counterattacks (for times when preemption is not feasible) that focus upon all-out use of those fifteen skills —— plus additional actions that offer similarly vicious and destructively decisive results.

Because one's repertoire must become automatic, doable without conscious thought, "instinctive", etc. it should be clear to any thinking person that these methods **cannot** be mastered while training for contest and sport. Contest and sport are worthy and provide great benefits, but *their* skills too must be committed to subconsciously motor-memorized action, and blending them with maiming and killing techniques is dangerous, stupid, and pointless.

What are you looking for —— sport or close combat? You can have either one, but you can't have both.

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Threats, Challenges, Fights, Attitudes, And Chips On The

Shoulder

WE recall with great affection the “old days” of martial arts in America, during the 1950’s and 60’s. With the exception of such notables as the late Charles Nelson of NYC, *most* instruction was in very traditional, classical arts —— i.e. judo and ju-jitsu mainly, until the late 60’s when karate took center stage.

As far as the competitive aspects of judo and the sport-oriented karate styles are concerned, we think that their quality in both technique and —— particularly —— *character* of the participants, was vastly superior to that which it is today. My opinion. We were never personally involved with the sporting side of the arts, but we were immersed in training for self-defense; and we knew lots of active competitors. The **judo** men were in our experience the finest. And if we had to grade competitors today our highest marks would still go to the serious Kodokan judoka.

As concerns self-defense, that’s a very different story. The quality and quantity of good, realistic unarmed self-defense and hand-to-hand combat training *today* has the 1950’s and 60’s material beat by a long shot. (The exception is in our military services, where sporting doctrine has captured the imagination, and where that which is frequently **laughable nonsense** is passed on to soldiers and marines as “battlefield combatives”. Our fighting men would be *far* better off if they were taught what the allies were taught in the 1940’s. In the **private sector**, however, practical, real world self-defense and close combat is at the highest level it has ever been thus far in modern history).

Just one problem: The prickly and arrogant attitude that is evidenced by too damn many “martial artists” in *both* the competitive *and* the sporting venues is, today, all too often disgraceful.

Certain technically competent competitors who are widely respected for their *competitive* acumen take delight not merely in effectively defeating their opponents, but in **humiliating** them. Way back when, this sort of despicable conduct (and attitude) would have earned the contempt, as opposed to the admiration that it seems to garner today, of 98% of those involved in any way

with martial arts. “Challenges”, insofar as *sporting contests* are concerned is and always has been legitimate. But the idea of challenging individuals *in order to demonstrate one’s own **combat** (not competition) superiority is infantile, moronic nonsense*. The late Bruce Tegnér said it perfectly when he said that actual combat between two experts in order to “prove” that one’s actual hand-to-hand repertoire is “better” than the other fellow’s only serves to prove that the “competitors” are great **fools!**

Teachers back in the 50’s and 60’s emphasized that (aside from sporting competition, which has nothing to do with combat) **getting into, encouraging, provoking, or agreeing to engage in** actual fighting was forbidden, and is the mark of a person with a lousy character and even lousier self-control.

It seems difficult not to arrive at the conclusion that the advent of both the UFC and MMA have encouraged belligerence and arrogance amongst competitors and fans of this particular “martial arts venue”. We have seen it in several adherents to the sport, and it is singularly distasteful. *All that it has done is encourage the **worst** types of people to come into their fold* (which, of course may be one of their unstated objectives. We don’t know).

Certainly the attitudes of some of those who are enthusiastic participants in the UFC/MMA type “martial art” leave much to be desired. **Some** of these fellows are fine men and sports participants. But this seems to be rather the exception than the rule.

“Proving oneself” has always and **correctly** been seen in the martial arts as something one does **to** and **for** one’s **SELF**. And *after* having proven oneself *to* oneself, one has **nothing whatever to prove to anyone else**. The only thing one is concerned with thereafter is self-improvement, learning more, honing skills, perfecting.

Competition in the martial arts has traditionally been for enjoying the sport, keeping fit, polishing one’s skills. It has never been for the purpose of elevating oneself *over* others. It was always thought of as **working with**

another person for your mutual benefit. That was the classical spirit.

Those training in arts whose purpose was *combat* and that had nothing to do whatever with competition *never* went about, like braying asses, proclaiming their superiority and the superiority of their method. They just trained — steadily and seriously. And they respected others who, in their respective arts, trained just as steadily and just as seriously.

Out personal feeling is that the current trend reflects the decline and dissolution of our culture, and of Western society in general. Respect, courtesy, acceptance of others and of others' ways, so long as there is no attack upon one's own, etc. is all gone. Now, ten-for-a-penny punks issue challenges, insults, and declarations. Ninety-nine percent of these little sewer-dwellers do their touting from the safety of online forums, blogs, and so forth; but it sullies the martial arts as steroid drug abuse has sullied bodybuilding. And, lest we forget, steroids have found their way into the martial arts field; specifically, the UFC/MMA subculture of the martial arts field.

Being a toughguy, being number one, “kicking ass”, etc. and so on has **NOTHING** to do with intelligent, effective, professional combat and self-defense training. The real professionals know this and **live** by it. But as always in any field, those who popularly dominate the martial arts for the majority of people who come to it are *not* professionals, they are **commercializers**. Self-serving, grandiose, egotistical commercializers.

While we do certainly disagree with the practicality of much of what used to be taught in the arts of ju-jitsu, karate, and related disciplines in the 1950's, 60's, and early 70's, we do remember with great fondness the **spirit** with which it was taught, and the **attitudes** encouraged by the teachers.

The emphasis was on training for one's lifetime, serious self-defense, learning the futility of violence in general, and building rock-solid confidence and reliable skills with which to meet any emergencies; *not* on becoming a “champion” horse's ass.

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